

2012-2014 Performance Partnership Grant
Appendix C: Water Quality Component
Final Performance Report for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014
Submitted September 22, 2014

The “Comments” field provides a status report on DEQ’s progress toward meeting its commitments and indicates where circumstances have changed to affect the target completion date for the task and other changes in expectations, where appropriate.

EPA Strategic Plan Goal: Protecting America’s Waters

Element 1: Water Quality Standards and Assessments

DEQ contact: [Debra Sturdevant](#)

EPA contact: Angela Chung and David Croxton

Establishing water quality standards for waters of the United States in Oregon is at the core of DEQ’s water quality activities. Standards include beneficial uses of water, such as drinking, aquatic life, recreation, etc., and the water quality criteria designed to protect those uses. The Water Quality Program then acts to protect and restore water quality by implementing those standards, including evaluating whether Oregon’s water quality standards are being met through the development of the biennial Integrated Report, which includes the section 303(d) list of impaired waters and the section 305(b) report describing the status of Oregon’s surface water quality. The staff who work on these program areas perform the following activities:

- Conduct triennial standards reviews to establish and update scientifically based water quality standards and related policies.
- Develop and maintain internal directives for and provide guidance to regional and headquarters staff on implementation of water quality standards in various water programs.
- Identify waterbodies not meeting water quality standards and develop Integrated Reports that are linked to the Watershed Approach Basin Reports.

During the performance period, DEQ is piloting an approach to developing its Integrated Report that supports and is linked to its Watershed Approach Basin Reports described in Element 7. DEQ made these efforts a priority in order to guide the agency’s efforts to help protect, improve and enhance the quality of Oregon waterways. The objective of linking the Integrated Report efforts with the Watershed Approach Basin Reports is to ensure that these efforts, together, provide a comprehensive evaluation of water quality and other environmental information resulting in basin-based water quality status and action plans. In addition, this approach will result in DEQ being able to make the most efficient use of its staff resources.

Environmental Outcome: Adoption and implementation of appropriate water quality standards will contribute to protection of the beneficial uses of Oregon’s waterbodies and water quality improvements as measured by water quality monitoring and other environmental data.

Deleted: Jennifer Wigal

APPENDIX C: WATER QUALITY PROGRAM COMPONENT

#	<u>DEQ Commitment</u>	<u>EPA Commitment</u>	<u>Outputs</u>	<u>Target Date</u>	<u>Support ed by PPG?</u>	<u>EPA PA M</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1.1	Complete water quality standards revisions for turbidity.	Provide early review of proposed rule revisions for turbidity. Provide coordination with the Services on early review for revisions that may require consultation.	Final recommendations for revised standards for turbidity presented to the Environmental Quality Commission for adoption.	6/2013	Partial		Delayed indefinitely in order to use limited staff for other higher priority work in the near term, including revisiting the temperature standard.
1.2	Technical support for court decision/litigation for temperature standards package. DEQ will provide supporting information as warranted and any other assistance requested by EPA attorneys. Participate in settlement negotiations if warranted.		Implementation of any consent decrees or court orders that require future action by DEQ.	Ongoing	Partial		<p>Provided technical support and participated in settlement discussions. Communicated with the public regarding EPA disapproval.</p> <p>Work continues. DEQ is:</p> <p>1) Implementing the standard in effect following EPA disapproval, 2) adding notes to the administrative rules regarding the ineffective status of the disapproved standards provisions, 3) providing any needed information related to the remand for ESA consultation, and 4) preparing for a future standard revision.</p>

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
1.3	DEQ will provide information as requested by EPA and participate in discussions and negotiations related to ESA consultation and any proposed State conservation measures.	EPA action on DEQ's toxic pollutants criteria for fish and aquatic life. In taking its action, EPA will consider the Biological Opinions.	Letter of approval or disapproval from EPA to DEQ. Any disapproval will include the reasons for the decision and possible remedies or alternatives.	11/30/2012	Partial		Completed. DEQ provided requested information in order for EPA to complete its action (Jan. 31, 2013) on OR's aquatic life toxics criteria submitted for approval in 2004.
1.4	Prepare a description of how Oregon addresses nutrient-related water quality issues in its CWA programs.	Assistance with data, analysis and federal requirements related to addressing nutrient impacts to beneficial uses.	DEQ report describing Oregon's approach to addressing nutrients	7/31/2012	Partial		Completed and posted a document describing Oregon's Nutrient Management Program on DEQ's web site (http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/standards/docs/NutrientManagementReport.pdf).
1.5	Identify and plan next set of standards work to be completed and coordinate priorities and work schedules with EPA.	Provide input to DEQ on standards work needs and priorities. Coordinate with the	Standards work plan that identifies needs and priorities.	12/31/2012	Partial		Interrupted by temperature litigation activity. DEQ completed rulemaking to address EPA disapproval of a number of aquatic life toxics criteria, including 11 pesticides and freshwater criteria for selenium. DEQ also reinstated freshwater and saltwater criteria for arsenic, and saltwater criteria for chromium VI. DEQ initiated rulemaking to address EPA's disapproval of freshwater criteria for ammonia. DEQ began background work and discussions with stakeholders on a subsequent rulemaking to revise the ALC for copper, and adopt four new EPA recommended pesticide criteria. DEQ

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		Services on actions requiring ESA consultation.					anticipates working closely with EPA and the Services in developing revised criteria.
1.6	Address water quality standards-related actions (e.g., variances, site-specific background pollutant criteria, water quality standards revisions) arising from implementation of revised human health criteria.	EPA will work with DEQ on any variance requests or other WQS revisions arising from the recent human health criteria revisions.	Variances and other water quality standards revisions.	Ongoing	Partial		As of July 2014, DEQ has not received a variance request from any discharger. Site specific water quality standards for the West Division Main Canal near Hermiston were partially approved and partially disapproved by EPA. DEQ is in the process of revising the site specific standards to remove the disapproved language.
1.7	DEQ will submit Oregon's 2012 and 2014 303(d) list to EPA. DEQ will update Oregon's Integrated Report on water quality and 303(d) List pending EPA's approval. DEQ will distribute final approved	EPA will review and approve updates to 303(d). EPA will extract information from Oregon's databases to populate EPA databases (WATERS,	Oregon's 2012 and 2014 Integrated Reports and 303(d) lists, and lists of TMDL priorities	7/31/2012, 4/1/2014	Partial		EPA finalized its 2010 303(d) additions in December 2012. Due to the late date, DEQ began a limited scope 2012 assessment. DEQ put a draft 2012 report out for public comment in January 2014 and was asked to do additional work to expand the scope. The expanded scope cannot be completed within resource and timeframe limitations. DEQ expects to submit its final report to EPA in September 2014.

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	303(d) list and Integrated Report for agency and public use.	ADB, NAD) and compile information for national reports.					
1.8	DEQ will assist EPA to identify relevant data elements and georeferenced information to contribute to EPA's national data roll-ups and national measure target determinations.	EPA will extract information from Oregon's databases to populate EPA databases (WATERS, ADB, NAD) and compile information for national reports.	Oregon Integrated Report	Ongoing	Partial	WQ-7	DEQ has provided this information as requested from EPA. DEQ will assist Region 10 as needed with submittal for upload to national database.
1.9	DEQ will continue development of approaches to implement narrative criteria for Integrated Reporting.	EPA will support the technical analysis and data review necessary for assessment protocol development. EPA will work with DEQ on approach for waters	Updates/new protocols for Oregon Assessment Methodology for Integrated Report on Water Quality Status	Ongoing	Partial		DEQ is continuing to implement narrative criteria in its CWA programs that can help inform DEQ's future development of its 303(d) list.

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		where narrative criteria are not met but no pollutant is identified for TMDL development.					
1.1 0	DEQ will work to develop an effective and sustainable approach to developing timely Integrated Reports. Such approaches will consider staffing and data infrastructure.	EPA will provide input on approaches and processes as they are developed by DEQ.		Ongoing	Partial		DEQ continues to view this as a priority and intends to focus on this work as soon as the 2012 IR is submitted.
1.1 1	Advancing DEQ's watershed approach efforts by syncing up the 2014 Integrated Report with the Watershed Approach Basin Reports.		Oregon Integrated Report and Watershed Approach Basin Reports	Ongoing	Partial		DEQ is continuing to evaluate how to integrate these efforts to ensure efficient use of its resources and consistency and use of information in the two efforts.

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Element 2 : TMDLS

DEQ contact: Gene Foster

EPA contact: David Croxton

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and Water Quality Management Plans

The federal Clean Water Act requires that water pollutant budgets, called TMDLs, be developed for waterbodies that do not meet water quality standards. TMDLs describe the maximum amount of pollutants from municipal, industrial, commercial and surface runoff sources, including natural background, which can enter the river or stream without violating water quality standards. These estimates are required for waterbodies that have been identified as in violation of one or more water quality standards at some time, and have been included on one of DEQ's 303d lists of water quality limited waterbodies.

Oregon's 303(d) list and TMDL process was the subject of lawsuits brought by environmental groups. Under a consent order signed in 2000, EPA agreed to a timeline that would ensure Oregon completes 1153 TMDLs for waterbodies listed on the 1998 303(d) list or subsequent 303(d) lists by the end of 2010. DEQ met this requirement in 2010, but this does not mean that DEQ's TMDL work is done. The 303(d) list includes additional waterbodies where standards are not being met for one or more pollutants, and others may be added with each update to the 303(d) list (generally every two years). In March 2012, EPA proposed adding 1004 new listings to the 303(d) list, which could greatly expand the scope of the TMDL program.

DEQ develops TMDLs on a basin or subbasin scale (generally on a 3rd field US Geological Survey Hydrologic Unit Code or smaller). These TMDLs address all sources of pollutants when determining allocations of loading for the pollutants being addressed by the TMDL. These allocations are developed through water quality analysis, statistical analysis, and mathematical modeling. Staff in the program conduct all facets of work in collecting, analyzing and presenting results. Staff will also perform public and stakeholder outreach to ensure input when decisions are being made. The combination of outreach and development provides for the transition from development of loading allocations to implementation in permits and watershed plans.

TMDL Wasteload Allocations are implemented through waste limits in permits for point source discharges, and Load Allocations are implemented as planning targets for other sources and designated management agencies. DEQ staff actively implement TMDLs by:

- Revising industrial and municipal wastewater permits to incorporate revised permit limits.
- Working with local communities and the Oregon Department of Agriculture through the Agriculture Water Quality Management Act process to implement the TMDLs effectively on agricultural lands.
- Working with the Oregon Department of Forestry for implementation on state and private forestlands, through the Oregon Forest Practices Act and long range management plans.
- Working with ODA and ODF on quantifying the effectiveness of BMPs to reduce pollutants, such as sediment, temperature, nutrients and bacteria.
- Assisting local governments in developing TMDL Implementation Plans for urban areas.
- Working with the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and other federal agencies on developing water quality restoration plans for lands under their jurisdiction.

Under most circumstances, TMDL Implementation plans for improved water quality rely on cooperation among landowners and land managers within a river basin. Local watershed councils, Soil and Water Conservation Districts or other organizations will serve as community-based coordination points for these united efforts. Agencies and municipalities with jurisdiction over sources of nonpoint source pollution and sources not covered by permit are required to submit TMDL implementation plans to DEQ. These plans describe actions that will be taken to reduce their contribution to Water Quality problems.

During the 2012-2014 PPA/PPG, DEQ will be completing work on several commitments related to the CZARA settlement agreement. Additional nonpoint source pollution control

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measures for forestry and onsite septic systems are being developed for Coastal Basins. DEQ will also be completing its first Implementation Ready TMDL for the Mid-Coast basins. Also consistent with CZARA guidance, a minimum of \$100,000 in 319 funding will be set aside each year for development of the Coastal Basin TMDLs and BMPs in Oregon.

Environmental Outcome: Development and implementation of TMDLs will contribute to protection of the beneficial uses and meeting water quality standards in Oregon's waterbodies and water quality improvements as measured by water quality data and other environmental data and measures in WQMPs and TMDL implementation plans.

#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
2.1	Develop TMDLs and WQMPs in accordance with 303(d) list schedule.	Technical Assistance; Review and approve	<p>Issuance of TMDLs for the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deschutes Basin - Coquille Basin - MidCoast Basins <p>Issuance of TMDLs for the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Powder/Burnt Basins -Chetco Basin -Sixes Basin <p>TMDL Revisions for the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tualatin Subbasin Upper Klamath and Lost River Subbasins 	<p>6/12</p> <p>3/13</p> <p>6/13</p> <p>6/14</p> <p>9/12</p> <p>10/12</p>	Partial	WQ-8b	<p>Issuance of TMDLs was delayed due to litigation on the temperature standard.</p> <p>Revised target dates for TMDL issuance are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coquille in 12/14; • MidCoast in 12/15; • Chetco in 6/16; and • Sixes in 6/16. <p>DEQ plans to begin development of the Powder/Burnt TMDL in 3/15.</p> <p>TMDL development for the Upper Deschutes is ongoing.</p> <p>DEQ completed TMDL revisions for the Tualatin (http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/tmdls/docs/willamettebasin/tualatin/revision/OrderMemo.pdf).</p> <p>TMDL revisions to the Upper Klamath and Lost River TMDLs are ongoing</p>

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2.2	Implement TMDL Wasteload Allocations in NPDES permits through collaboration with NPDES permit writers.		Pollutant Discharge Limits that will meet WLAs for each permitted discharge.	Ongoing	Partial		Ongoing
2.3	Implement the Willamette River Basin TMDL. Work with watershed councils, local governments, and other DMAs to develop appropriate management practices and plans for controlling pollutants to the Willamette River. Work with USDA agencies to leverage Farm Bill resources to implement priority best management practices in critical areas.		Completed Implementation plans throughout Willamette Basin that guide management practices, pollutant controls to meet load allocations in TMDLs. Facilitate projects that result in improvements in water quality.	Ongoing	Partial		DEQ completed a 5-year review of DMA implementation of the Willamette TMDL: http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/tmdls/docs/FiveYearDMAReport_Feb2014.pdf .

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2. 4	Implement the Willamette Mercury TMDL (Phase I) using DEQ's Agency Toxics Reduction Strategy, Mercury Reduction Strategy and mercury source characterization work to help identify priorities and strategies. Work with stakeholders to identify sources and implement strategies to reduce mercury in the environment. Work with EPA Region 10 to develop and implement Region 10's Mercury Strategy Framework.		Complete characterization of mercury sources in Willamette basin and data required for final modeling.	Ongoing	Partial	SP-12	Ongoing
2.	Implement		Completed	Ongoing	Partial	WQ-1	Ongoing

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5	TMDLs for Nonpoint Sources in subbasins where TMDLs/WQM Ps have been completed. Work with watershed councils, local governments and other DMAs to develop appropriate management practices and plans for controlling pollutants. Work with USDA agencies to leverage Farm Bill resources to implement priority best management practices in critical areas.		Implementation plans that guide management practices, pollutant controls to meet load allocations in TMDLs. Facilitate projects that result in improvements in water quality.			0	
2. 6	Develop Implementation Ready TMDLs for the Mid-Coast basins.	Review and provide input to DEQ as TMDLs and BMPs are developed	Completed TMDLs issued as administrative orders that assign load	6/13	Partial		Ongoing

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		and approve completed TMDLs	allocations to pollutant sources in the basins.				
2. 7	Implementation of load allocations or require TMDL implementation plans for all sources assigned load allocations.	Review and provide input to DEQ on Mid-Coast and North Coast Basin implementation plans	Implementation plans that meet load allocations or management measures identified in the TMDL/WQ MP that meet load allocations.	2013	Partial		Ongoing

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Element 3: Underground Injection Control

DEQ contacts: [Anita Yap](#)
EPA contacts: Peter Contreras

Deleted: Judy Johndohl

Underground Injection Control Program

The Underground Injection Control (UIC) program protects drinking water sources and aquifers by providing oversight on the use of injection systems (dry wells, sumps, large onsite wastewater treatment systems, geothermal, aquifer storage and recovery (ASR), remediation injection, etc.) that discharge to the subsurface and may endanger groundwater quality. Federal regulation requires DEQ to keep an updated inventory of all injection wells and report them to the EPA annually. In Oregon, the majority of injection systems are associated with stormwater discharge, large onsite wastewater, aquifer remediation, and industrial process/wastewater. Injection systems must obtain approval from DEQ to operate under Authorization by Rule, a UIC-WPCF permit, or must be formally closed. DEQ staff review and approve applications of a variety of injection system types, provide technical assistance to private and public injection well owners, and work closely with municipalities in their development of stormwater management plans related to injection systems. As a delegated program under the Safe Drinking Water Act, injection systems are subject to EPA enforcement.

Environmental Outcome: These activities help to ensure that adequate controls are in place so that UICs do not result in water quality standards violations, which will contribute to water quality improvements as measured by water quality monitoring and other environmental data.

#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
3.1	Continue administration of UIC program by providing Authorization by Rule site reviews, developing WPCF permits and closures.	EPA will provide enforcement and compliance assistance as requested by and in close coordination with DEQ.	Wells inventoried and registered per year; Authorization by Rule determination process (e.g., requesting additional information, providing clarification on application issues, retrofits) will occur as needed. Issue 20 areawide UIC-WPCF Permits a year. 30 closures approved per year, including an average of 5 motor vehicle waste disposal wells per year or as they are located.	Ongoing	Partial	SDW-8, SDW-7b	DEQ continues to issue authorizations by rule (85), closures (21) and WPCF permits (10). DEQ is prioritizing the WPCF permit backlog and evaluating a more efficient process to ensure UIC owners and operators are covered by the appropriate regulatory means (i.e., authorization by rule, general permit or WPCF permit).

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
3.2	Provide technical assistance and education and outreach to consultants, cities, municipalities and other public and private UIC owners.	EPA will provide inspector training opportunities; provide training/outreach to municipalities and other public and private UIC owners, as requested.	Outreach and education activities may include presentations, meetings and distribution of literature.	Ongoing	Partial		DEQ program staff provide UIC talks as requested and provide outreach through updated website information. DEQ staff attended a UIC inspector training workshop in Seattle in spring of 2014.
3.3	Update the internal UIC database to align with EPA's UIC national database. Increase data flow through EPA's Exchange Network.	EPA will provide technical assistance to DEQ as needed to ensure database functionality.		Ongoing	Partial		The connectivity between DEQ's internal database and EPA's national database was established by the end of 2012. DEQ continues to work with EPA and needs to conduct further QA/QC of data before submitting data that satisfies EPA reporting requirements.
3.4	Provide UIC program approval package to EPA for redelegation from EPA to DEQ for program primacy.	EPA will review program delegation package in a timely manner.	Program approval package submitted to EPA includes and addresses the required program elements addressing program revisions for redelegation that results in program redelegation.	8/31/12	Partial		Delayed due to UIC program coordinator position vacant for about 5 months and updating of DEQ and DOGAMI Memorandum of Agreement.

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Element 4: Groundwater Program

DEQ contact: [Anita Yap](#)

EPA contact: Eric Winiecki

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Groundwater Program

The Groundwater Quality Protection Act of 1989 provides the framework for comprehensive groundwater management and protection in Oregon. This Act and the federal Safe Drinking Water Act establish the critical elements for enhancing and protecting Oregon's groundwater resource for its many beneficial uses. Over ninety percent of Oregon's available freshwater is stored beneath the earth's surface as groundwater. Approximately 70 percent of Oregon's people depend on groundwater for their daily water needs via private, public and industrial water wells.

Oregon focuses most of its groundwater protection activities in three sensitive groundwater areas called "Groundwater Management Areas"; one is located in the Lower Umatilla Basin, one in Northern Malheur County and another in the Southern Willamette Valley. Protection efforts in these management areas involve the implementation of groundwater action plans where the water quality has been degraded, beneficial uses are seriously impaired, and public health may be at risk in part from nonpoint source groundwater pollution. Oregon also provides technical assistance to communities and watershed councils engaged in groundwater pollution prevention efforts.

Environmental Outcome: Groundwater protection efforts will help to prevent the degradation of Oregon's groundwater resources and maintain or improve the quality of groundwater resources, as measured through the various groundwater monitoring efforts DEQ conducts around the state.

#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
4.1	Implement the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area Action Plan by focusing on agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial, municipal, and public water supply activities that will prevent and reduce nitrate contamination in groundwater.	EPA will provide technical support as needed.	<u>Coordination</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meet with local stakeholders, Groundwater Management Committee, and local agencies to coordinate Action Plan activities. - Provide technical support. - Research BMPs and their effectiveness. <u>Education and Outreach</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize education and outreach efforts to increase awareness of groundwater vulnerability and BMPs, including 	<p>Meet as needed; typically 2 meetings per year</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Annually</p>	Partial		<p>Project on schedule and Committee meeting every other month to finalize assessment documents and develop next action plan. Other tasks completed as proposed. Monitoring and data analysis for groundwater nitrate on schedule to be completed in 2013, and BMP evaluation on schedule to be completed in 2013.</p>

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			<p>participation at “outdoor schools” and farm fairs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain GWMA website. <p><u>Monitoring and Data Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor groundwater quality at 32 domestic and irrigation wells to evaluate impacts and effectiveness of Action Plan. - Complete groundwater nitrate trend analysis for entire GWM (including food processor sites) - Evaluate success of BMP awareness and implementation. 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Bimonthly</p> <p>2013</p> <p>Every four years</p>			
4.2	Implement the Northern Malheur County Groundwater Management Area Action Plan by focusing on agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial, municipal and public water supply activities that will prevent and reduce nitrate contamination in groundwater.	EPA will provide technical support as needed.	<p><u>Coordination</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meet with local stakeholders, Groundwater Management Committee, and local agencies to coordinate Action Plan activities. - Provide technical support. - Research BMPs and their effectiveness. <p><u>Education and Outreach</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize education and outreach efforts to increase awareness of groundwater vulnerability and BMP. <p><u>Monitoring and Data</u></p>	<p>Meet as needed; typically 2 meetings per year</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Annually</p>	Partial		DEQ did not meet with the Committee due to priorities with other groundwater projects. Other tasks completed as proposed. Monitoring and data analysis for groundwater nitrate is on schedule to be completed in 2013.

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			<u>Analysis</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor groundwater quality at 36 domestic and irrigation wells to evaluate impacts and effectiveness of Action Plan. - Complete groundwater nitrate trend analysis. - Evaluate success of BMP awareness and implementation. 	Bimonthly 2013 Every four years			
4.3	Implement the Southern Willamette Valley Groundwater Management Area Action Plan by focusing on agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial, municipal and public water supply activities that will prevent and reduce nitrate contamination in groundwater.	<p>EPA will provide technical support as needed.</p> <p>EPA (Corvallis) received a RARE grant to: install lysimeters in 12 active agricultural fields; monitor water quality below the root zone; and inform the community of the lysimeter results.</p> <p>EPA (Corvallis) provided isotopic analyses of groundwater, lysimeter and surface water samples.</p>	<u>Coordination</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meet with local stakeholders, Groundwater Management Committee, and local agencies to coordinate Action Plan activities. - Provide technical support. - Research BMPs and their effectiveness. <u>Education and Outreach</u> Organize education and outreach efforts to increase awareness of groundwater vulnerability and BMPs, including 2 demonstration projects and 2 workshops. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain GWMA and provide support for OSU Well Water website. <u>Monitoring and Data Analysis</u>	3-4 SWV GWMA Committee meetings per year Ongoing Ongoing 2 demonstration projects per biennium; 2 major outreach/education events per year Ongoing	Partial		<p>Project on schedule. SWV GWMA Staff (including DEQ) conducted two focus groups in Benton County to better understand the rural resident and the growers' groundwater knowledge, perception and awareness.</p> <p>DEQ conducted pesticide sampling of 33 domestic wells in Benton and Linn Counties and held a town hall meeting to share the results of the testing, and help residents and growers better understand the risk.</p> <p>DEQ has coordinated the SWV GWMA Committee meetings for 10 years. Although these meetings are held in Harrisburg at 8:00 in the morning, there are usually 35-40 people in attendance.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor groundwater quality at 25 monitoring wells and 15 domestic wells to evaluate impacts and effectiveness of Action Plan. - <u>Complete trend analyses once every two years.</u> - Conduct nitrate well water screening events. - Evaluate success of BMP awareness and implementation. 	<p>4 times per year</p> <p>10 events per biennium</p> <p>As scheduled</p>			
4.4	Complete federal and state groundwater reporting requirements.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biennial Report to the legislature. - Groundwater component of 305(b) report. 	<p>12/30/12</p> <p>As scheduled</p>	Partial		Report to the legislature completed and submitted on schedule.
4.5	Participate in EPA-sponsored annual groundwater meetings and conferences as workload and resources allow.	EPA will provide timely notice and organization of meetings.	Meetings	As scheduled	Partial		EPA did not notify DEQ of any meetings.

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Element 5: WQ Permitting, Pretreatment and 401 Certifications

DEQ contact: [Jennifer Wigal](#)

EPA contact: Mike Lidgard

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Industrial and Domestic Wastewater Permitting

DEQ's wastewater management program regulates and minimizes adverse impacts of pollution on Oregon's waters from point sources of pollution. The term "point source" generally refers to wastewater discharged into water or onto land through a pipe or a discernible channel. These point sources operate under the terms of a federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) or state Water Pollution Control Facilities (WPCF) wastewater discharge permit issued by DEQ.

DEQ has had authority for NPDES permit issuance since 1974. As a delegated program, DEQ's NPDES permitting activities are subject to EPA oversight. Effective implementation of the program is required for continued delegation of the water quality program and is essential to the continued receipt of federal program funds. To effectively protect water quality, DEQ must carry out five activities:

- Issue discharge permits that adequately evaluate and limit pollutant discharges to prevent an impact on receiving waters and the beneficial uses of those waters (drinking, swimming, fishing, aquatic habitat, etc.).
- Periodically inspect facilities and review monitoring results.
- Update and maintain EPA's PCS/ICIS database with timely and accurate permit and permit related data (DMRs, Compliance Schedules, Inspections, etc.).
- Take prompt and appropriate enforcement actions when violations occur.
- Give essential technical assistance for facility owners and operators to help assure ongoing compliance at minimum expense to permit holders.

DEQ currently manages about 5,600 water quality permits including 3,500 federal NPDES permits and 1,500 state WPCF permits. Achievement of permit program objectives requires targeted and effective implementation of water quality standards following a watershed approach. Program staff requires up-to-date tools and training to consistently develop and issue high quality permits statewide and ensure effective permit implementation. Targeted program implementation is based on source-specific and watershed-specific priorities. Integrated planning can be an effective strategy to respond to multiple mandates with limited resources. DEQ intends to work collaboratively with EPA to implement EPA's Integrated Planning Framework within the framework of the NPDES program.

Wastewater and stormwater program workload will expand in scope and complexity in the biennium. DEQ recently issued or will soon issue new pesticide, irrigation and gray water general permits and the administration of these permits will place additional demands on staff already tasked with renewal and administration of existing general permits. DEQ has also enhanced efforts to reduce the discharge of toxic pollutants from permitted sources into the environment. For example, implementation of the recently revised water quality criteria for human health (approved by EPA in October, 2011) and other changes to the permitting process now require more detailed wastewater monitoring and analysis of toxic pollutants from major sources. DEQ will continue to implement Oregon statutes and monitor and control persistent priority pollutants discharged from major municipal sources that are not currently addressed through the NPDES process. Industrial and municipal stormwater permits have also grown in complexity in the last biennium. Monitoring and controlling requirements of toxic and impairment pollutants has become increasingly necessary in the most recently issued permits. To be successful in these toxic pollutant reduction efforts, DEQ will work closely with permitted sources that must develop strategies to comply with more stringent water quality criteria.

Demand for program resources to develop and implement wastewater and stormwater permits has grown while permitting staff have declined by 11% in the last two years.

DEQ continues to improve the permitting process through development of guidance documents and management directives, permit template tools and training. DEQ has focused efforts on Blue Ribbon Committee recommendations of 2004 to focus on environmental results, program integrity and efficiency. Aligning these objectives with DEQ's focus on program integration at the watershed scale and reducing toxics will yield:

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- Permits issued by watershed, for an improved emphasis on key water quality concerns and a more holistic approach to discharge effects on watersheds.
- Improved accountability including annual permit issuance plans and tracking and individual performance expectations.
- Timely review of compliance data and improved compliance inspections.

Pretreatment Program–[Jennifer Wigal](#)

Deleted: [Dennis Ades](#)

Pretreatment regulations establish responsibilities and standards to control pollutants from industrial users that discharge wastewater to a collection system and publically owned treatment works. Toxic pollutants and other industrial contaminants may pass through or interfere with wastewater treatment processes or may contaminate sewage sludge. The POTW acts as the control authority for these industrial users and monitors the wastewater they discharge to determine whether they are in compliance with the pretreatment standards. DEQ oversees each of the 26 facilities in Oregon with a formal pretreatment program and also provides assistance to smaller facilities that are not required to have a pretreatment program but take additional measures to protect the collection system and treatment works and the environment.

Biosolids Program–[Anita Yap](#)

Deleted: [Judy Johndohl](#)

Biosolids are wastewater solids that have undergone sufficient treatment to make them safe for land application. These wastewater residuals are desirable fertilizers and soil conditioners. DEQ works with domestic wastewater treatment facilities to assure proper stabilization, application, management, and monitoring of solids on sites used to improve soil tilth and to grow a variety of crops. Biosolids applications are controlled by detailed site authorization letters that together with biosolids management plans, are linked directly to the Water Quality permits of wastewater treatment facilities.

Wastewater Reuse–[Anita Yap](#)

Deleted: [Judy Johndohl](#)

DEQ staff work with municipal and industrial wastewater facilities to permit the recycling of treated wastewater effluent and provide technical assistance to those facilities engaged in the practice of reuse. Wastewater reuse is a tool in the “tool box” for municipalities and potentially industrial wastewater dischargers as another option for managing their treated wastewater. Having additional “tools” provides these stakeholders with options that may be more economical and/or environmentally sound, and can be an additional source of water for non-drinking water practices. Most wastewater reuse occurs through land application to crops and golf courses, and there is increasing interest to reuse treated effluent for industrial and commercial applications. DEQ works with the Oregon Healthy Authority and Water Resources Department on the permitting of this practice.

401 Water Quality Certification–[Steve Mrazik](#)

Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act requires that any federal license or permit to conduct an activity that may result in a discharge to waters of the State receive certification from DEQ that the activity complies with water quality requirements and standards before the activity is allowed. In order to provide a certification, DEQ reviews proposed project applications to dredge, fill, or otherwise alter a waterway or wetland to ensure that the projects will meet water quality program requirements. The federal relicensing of hydroelectric projects also requires a 401 water quality certification (WQC) from DEQ as a condition of the operating license of the facility.

For dredge and fill projects, DEQ issues approximately 150 individual WQCs per biennia that contain conditions that provide protective measures for water quality and beneficial uses. DEQ provides support for EPA reviews of 401 water quality certification program activities related to proposed dredge and fill projects. Additionally, DEQ provides a great deal of technical assistance throughout the permit process. DEQ also issues programmatic type WQCs that cover groups of activities with protective conditions in an effort to provide a streamlined approach to the regulatory process.

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During the course of this PPA/PPG, EPA may allocate funds that could be used to enhance the state's 401 program. DEQ will work with EPA to identify any potential for requesting specific funding from EPA to enhance 401 reviews, oversight and field reviews consistent with existing program objectives. EPA will notify DEQ of any potential funding opportunities and respond to any DEQ request for additional funding.

Environmental Outcome: These activities help to ensure that adequate controls are in place so that point source discharges, dredge and fill activities and the recertification of hydroelectric projects do not result in water quality standards violations and will contribute to water quality improvements as measured by water quality monitoring and other environmental data.

#	<u>DEQ Commitment</u>	<u>EPA Commitment</u>	<u>Outputs</u>	<u>Target Date</u>	<u>Supported by PPG?</u>	<u>EPA PAM</u>	<u>Comments</u>
5.1	Continue to issue and reissue NPDES and WPCF permits. There are approximately 1200 individual permittees in Oregon, including <u>76</u> NPDES majors and <u>283</u> NPDES minors.	Consistent with the compliance schedule settlement agreement, EPA will review DEQ NPDES permits which contain compliance schedules. EPA review of these permits will occur prior to public notice. EPA may also review permits during the public notice process and proposed final permits	Develop and implement a permit issuance plan by February of each year that identifies specific NPDES permits intended to be reissued during the upcoming year.		Partial	WQ-12 WQ-19 a	DEQ had 132 of 336 total or 39% of individual NPDES permits current as of June 30, 2014 (compared to nearly 40% current at end of first year, June 30, 2013). For the past year from July 2013 through June 2014 since the annual report, DEQ averaged 138 of 340 or 41 percent of individual NPDES permits current. Similarly, DEQ averaged 169 of 203 or 83 percent of WPCF individual permits current, with 83% current (165 of 199) at the end of June 2014, compared to 83% current as of June 30, 2013.

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
		consistent with the Memorandum of Agreement. EPA's goal is to average one permit review per month during this period. EPA's designee for reviewing draft permits is the NPDES Karen Burgess.					
5.2	Develop and implement a watershed based permit issuance plan.		DEQ's goal is to have 95 percent of permits issued on a watershed cycle.		Partial	WQ-12	Ongoing, but significantly affected by uncertainty associated with temperature and TMDL litigation
	Implement revised water quality criteria for human health in the NPDES program.	Technical Assistance (TA); EPA timely review and comment on draft policies and guidance.	Major NPDES wastewater sources will begin to monitor wastewater for effluent constituents using revised Table 40 water quality criteria for human health. DEQ will evaluate	Ongoing			<p>Since 7/1/2011, a total of 80 NPDES individual permits have been issued. DEQ currently has 361 individual permit issued, so this corresponds to a renewal rate of about 22% over the past 3 years. This is about 1/3 the rate of permit issuance necessary to operate without a backlog.</p> <p>Of the 80 permits issued over the past 3 years, 61 were domestic and 19 were industrial. Of the 61 domestic permits, 8 were Tier 1. Of the industrial permits, 3 were Tier 1.</p> <p>None of these contain numeric permit limits for toxics. Contributing</p>

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
			effluent data for toxic pollutants that may contribute or cause an exceedence of water quality criteria using a revised and comprehensive methodology.				<p>factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate data. Some of the data available for these permit holders was collected prior to when DEQ began to use lower QLs. The facilities discharge to large receiving streams. High dilution factors meant there was no reasonable potential to exceed criteria. <p>Tier 2 domestic permits are much less likely than Tier 1 facilities to contain permit limits based on the HH criteria.</p>
5.3	Develop state-wide permit policies, guidance and tools to make the permits program more consistent, effective and efficient. This includes identifying and developing experts on various permit subjects such as mixing zones and reasonable potential analysis to improve permit quality and consistency.	Technical Assistance (TA); EPA timely review and comment on draft policies and guidance; and other program support as needed.	<p>Develop Internal Management Directives for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revise Sanitary Sewer Overflow IMD <p>Finalize revisions to permit templates.</p> <p>Continue to develop and implement training curriculum.</p> <p>Conduct permit writer's workshop.</p> <p>Develop fee rulemakings.</p>	<p>06/30/14</p> <p>Biannual 1</p> <p>10/31/12</p>	Partial		<p>The Sanitary Sewer Overflow IMD is pending completion of revised enforcement guidance.</p> <p>Issued or revised IMDs for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arsenic Reduction Policy in Surface Water Drinking Water Source Areas (http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/pubs/imds/ArsenicRedPolicyIMD.pdf) Implementation of Methylmercury Criterion in NPDES Permits (http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/pubs/imds/IMDmethylmercuryCriterion.pdf) The Use of Significant Figures and Rounding Conventions in Water Quality Permitting (http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/pubs/imds/SigFigsIMD.pdf) <p>Permit templates for major and minor NPDES permits have been established and are being used. These templates are "final" updated as new issues are identified and resolved.</p> <p>DEQ developed a training document that is used when new staff are hired.</p> <p>Permit writer's workshops are conducted annually.</p>

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
							<p>The most recent fee rulemaking was completed in late 2013.</p> <p>As a part of outcome-based management, in 2012, DEQ conducted a review of its permitting programs to identify high-impact, low-cost internal solutions to reduce the amount of time it takes to issue permits, and has been implementing recommendations that came out of that process. Specific efforts DEQ has begun implementing include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject matter experts are available throughout the permitting program to provide support on technically challenging permitting issues that few staff encounter more than twice a year. • Training and implementation of management directives and permit templates is improving the quality and consistency of permits throughout the program. • DEQ has begun implementing Permitting Process Improvement, an effort to identify opportunities to change DEQ's permit processes for improved timeliness and reduced backlog. Making these improvements will enhance DEQ's environmental outcomes and provide better customer service.
5.4	Permits shall include water-quality based effluent limits (WQBELs) as needed.	Provide permit review and oversight as appropriate.	WQBELs are included in permits where reasonable potential is found. Fact Sheets document reasonable potential and WQBELs.	Ongoing	Partial		ongoing
5.5	Implement State stormwater program.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renew One Phase I permit. - Renew 16 phase II permits. - Renew 1200 A nonmetallic 	06/30/14	Partial	WQ-13a WQ-13b WQ-13c	<p>Renewal of phase I permit is ongoing.</p> <p>DEQ is developing a permit for phase II communities. Staff turnover has delayed this process.</p> <p>DEQ issued the 1200A permit in December of 2013 and had assigned coverage under the new permit for more than 200 facilities during</p>

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
			minerals and asphalt and concrete batch plant permits. - Implement 1200COLS; 1200C, 1200A and 1200Z permits. - Work with local govt. agencies to assist DEQ in program implementation.				2013. Implementation of stormwater permits and assistance to local agencies is ongoing and includes updated guidance, development of email newsletter systems, and initiation of new Tier II industrial stormwater requirements.
5.6	Coordinate State permit actions with interested tribal agencies as appropriate.	Liaison role as needed.	Improved relations with affected tribes.	06/30/14	Partial		Ongoing, especially on the topic of revisions to the suction dredge mining permit
5.7	DEQ will conduct wastewater reuse activities.	EPA will provide TA; timely program support as needed.	Review recycled water use plans and provide technical assistance and program oversight from HQ and regional offices.	Ongoing	Partial		Implementation activities are ongoing. DEQ continued to support wastewater reuse activities through permitting, review and approval of water reuse plans, and technical assistance. In addition to ongoing permitting activities associated with graywater and recycled water, DEQ issued a general permit that allows for high-quality water generated from some industrial activities to be used for irrigation.
5.8	DEQ will conduct biosolids/sewage sludge activities.	EPA will provide TA; timely program support as needed.	- Review biosolids management plans during permit renewal or as needed. - Issue land	6/30/12 6/30/12	Partial		Implementation activities are ongoing. DEQ continued to support the beneficial reuse of biosolids generated from domestic wastewater treatment facilities by providing technical assistance, reviewing biosolids management plans, and issuing site authorization for specific biosolids land application sites.

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
			application site authorization letters as needed. - Provide TA and program oversight from each DEQ regional office and HQ.				
5.9	Implement the Pretreatment Program.	EPA will provide TA; timely program support as needed.	- DEQ's pretreatment work plan includes: - Oversee development of new programs as necessary, - Provide technical assistance and categorical determinations, - Review/approve a large and growing number program modifications, - Update pretreatment program policies, - Update administrative records.		Partial	WQ-14a WQ-14b	DEQ continued to improve coordination between pretreatment and permit programs and is developing pretreatment programs where required. DEQ reviewed the 2013 annual reports and responded to pretreatment control authorities.
5.10	DEQ will participate in	EPA will provide a	DEQ will provide information	6/30/12	Partial	PAMs are	

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#	<u>DEQ</u> <u>Commitment</u>	<u>EPA</u> <u>Commitment</u>	<u>Outputs</u>	<u>Target</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Supported</u> <u>by PPG?</u>	<u>EPA</u> <u>PAM</u>	<u>Comments</u>
	Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) reporting.	list of items to be reported under the NPDES permit program by July 1 of each year along with the due dates for each item.	required under the GPRA (resources permitting).			under GPRA	

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Element 6: Compliance Assurance and Enforcement

DEQ contact: [Jennifer Wigal](#)

EPA contact: Kim Ogle

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Site inspections, compliance assurance and enforcement are key elements of the NPDES permitting program. DEQ and EPA will collaborate to implement Clean Water Act Action Plan implementation policies in Oregon. DEQ will continue to improve permit compliance reporting and public accountability through improvements in electronic reporting system and automated compliance evaluations. DEQ and EPA will coordinate NPDES permitting, compliance and enforcement activities to efficiently achieve program priorities and desired outcomes.

Compliance inspections for major and non-major (minor) sources are scheduled to facilitate permit issuance on a watershed cycle. Offsite evaluations and targeted inspections of other permitted sources are based on environmental outcomes and other criteria; sources with compliance schedules, mutual agreement and orders, or technical assistance needs are prioritized. Enforcement actions follow guidance directives to ensure statewide consistency.

#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
6.1	DEQ will conduct compliance assistance and compliance assurance activities as appropriate (see additional detail below).	TA and support as needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TA provided to permittees. - DMRs from individual permittees reviewed. 	Ongoing	Partial		<p>In 4th quarter 2012/2013, DEQ reviewed 77 percent of individual major DMRs within 30 days.</p> <p>DEQ has begun implementing the Permit/Inspection Plan Project, an effort to assist project managers and teams to organize, execute, and maintain oversight of permit and inspection work; improve planning, improve understanding and documentation of reasons for falling behind schedule, and collect data for use in future process improvements.</p> <p>DEQ has begun implementing Inspection Protocol Development, an effort to create best practices for all inspectors, regardless of program or region, that will support and guide their work.</p>
6.2	DEQ will respond to significant public complaints.	TA and support as needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prompt response to complaints that involve potential significant threats to public health 	Ongoing	Partial		DEQ performed TA visits at 5 WPCF and 2 Non-Major IPs during the final year.

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> and the environment. - Investigate spills. - Enforcement actions as warranted. 				
6.3	DEQ will inspect (NPDES) facilities consistent with EPA's Compliance Monitoring Strategy.	As resources allow, Region may schedule joint and/or oversight inspections with DEQ.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DEQ will conduct inspections at major facilities every other year. Major facilities that qualify for offsite evaluations will be inspected once each five year permit cycle. - DEQ will conduct inspections at non-major facilities once every five years. DEQ will target additional NPDES compliance efforts in targeted watersheds and environmental outcomes or NPDES compliance history. <p>Stormwater:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inspect 10% of industrial stormwater facilities per year. - Inspect 10% of construction sites larger than 5 acres per year - Inspect 5% of construction sites less than 5 acres per year. - Conduct compliance activities on Phase I and Phase II MS4 permittees. 	Ongoing	Partial		<p>During the final year ending June 30, 2014, DEQ inspected 24 of the 69 or 35% (50% target) of Major NPDES individual permits and 38 of the 268 or 14% (20% target) of Non-Major NPDES individual permits.</p> <p>During the final year of the 12-14 PPA, DEQ inspected 20 of 367 or 5.4% (5% goal) of construction stormwater general permits (1200C & CA) disturbing less than five acres, and 35 of 377 or 9.3% (10% goal) of construction stormwater GPs (1200C & CA) disturbing five or more acres. DEQ inspected 60 of 457 or 13% (10% target) of industrial stormwater general permits (1200Z, COLS, & ZN).</p> <p>DEQ is streamlining audit procedures to better align audit function with existing program resources. With all resources applied to improving the program, DEQ performed no audits this past year.</p>

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
			-DEQ will participate in EPA audits of major MS4 programs in Oregon. Pretreatment: - DEQ will audit three approved active pretreatment programs each year. - During each audit an oversight inspection will be conducted of up to two Industrial Users to the POTW. - DEQ will conduct Pretreatment Compliance Inspections based on annual report results.				
6.4	DEQ will pursue timely and appropriate enforcement actions as warranted.	TA and program support as needed.	Formal enforcement actions taken pursuant to state law and rule.	Ongoing	Partial		
6.5	DEQ will participate in EPA collaborative planning and enforcement initiatives as resources allow.	TA and program support. If needed, EPA will draft Compliance Assurance Principles Agreement Revisions.	- NPDES MOA and Compliance Assurance Principles Agreement revisions as needed. EPA will coordinate internally amongst permitting and compliance groups. - Joint planning and enforcement case coordination.	Ongoing	Partial		
6.6	DEQ will report on its enforcement activities.		DEQ will submit summary level data on enforcement annually, or as requested by EPA.	Ongoing	Partial		
6.7	DEQ will work jointly	EPA will work jointly	Annual integrated work plan	Annually	Partial		

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#	<u>DEQ Commitment</u>	<u>EPA Commitment</u>	<u>Outputs</u>	<u>Target Date</u>	<u>Supported by PPG?</u>	<u>EPA PAM</u>	<u>Comments</u>
	with EPA to develop an annual integrated NPDES work plan as defined in the CWA Action Plan and subsequent guidance.	with DEQ to develop an annual integrated NPDES work plan as defined in the CWA Action Plan and subsequent guidance.	to address integrated NPDES approach as defined in the CWA Action Plan and subsequent guidance will be developed by EPA and DEQ by October 31st of each year.	by October 31 st of each year			
6.8	DEQ will address areas of improvement and areas that need attention as identified in the 2011 State Review Framework report.	EPA will provide review and input to assist DEQ in addressing SRF findings.	Outputs per each relevant SRF finding.	Timelines per SRF report	Partial		DEQ has resolved 9-2 Area for State Improvement regarding use of certain MOAs. DEQ is working diligently towards improving systems in Areas for State Attention.
6.9	DEQ will complete the annual review of DEQ-generated compliance and enforcement data in this PPA/PPG period to maintain program consistency until the next SRF review in 2015.	EPA will complete the annual review of EPA-generated compliance and enforcement data.	Verified Data	January of each year			DEQ performs annual SRF data verification per EPA notices.

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Element 7: WQ Data Analysis, Management and Monitoring

DEQ contact: Gene Foster (data) and Aaron Borisenko (monitoring)

EPA contact: Jeannine Brown (data) and Gretchen Hayslip (monitoring)

Water Quality Data Management

Water quality data management is an integral element for the operation of the Water Quality Program. There are a variety of data management systems used by various subprograms in the Water Quality Program including the NPDES, TMDL, NPS, and Monitoring subprograms, as well as the Laboratory Environmental Assessment [Program \(LEAP\)](#). The NPDES data stream is foundational to DEQ's management and EPA's oversight of the Oregon Water Quality program. This performance period will see the Oregon program's conversion from reporting to PCS to reporting to ICIS-NPDES. Acquiring an Oregon electronic discharge Monitoring Report (eDMR) submission system will also be necessary in order to prepare for several upcoming rules and changing NPDES reporting requirements.

Water Quality Data Analysis

DEQ has made the development of Watershed Approach Basin Reports a priority in order to guide the agency's efforts to help protect, improve and enhance the quality of Oregon waterways. Each report pulls together available water quality and other environmental information into a single document to produce a basin-based water quality status and action plan. The reports describe water quality conditions and include recommendations for actions that DEQ and others who are interested in these basins can take to improve water quality.

To produce these basin documents, DEQ follows a "watershed approach" that looks at all factors influencing water quality in a certain region. This approach combines the expertise of DEQ's 17 water quality sub-programs with a commitment to working with local stakeholders (communities, watershed councils and conservation districts) to find smart solutions to local water quality issues. It also includes working with applicable local, state and federal agencies on these issues. To support the Watershed Approach DEQ HQ, Region, and [LEAP](#) staff analyze water quality data for comparison to water quality standards, beneficial use impairment, and trends. This information is used to support the watershed based planning process.

Another area of work involves supporting ODA in the implementation of the Agriculture Water Quality Management Program and biennial reviews of area plans and rules. Basin coordinators and HQ staff analyze existing water quality data and provide a summary of the analysis to ODA and Local Advisory Committees for biennial reviews. DEQ will compare water quality data to water quality standards and analyze the water quality data for trends. The purpose of DEQ participation is to ensure that updated water quality information is considered during biennial reviews. Basin coordinators and HQ staff will also be involved in the design and application of ODA's effectiveness monitoring of area plans. When ODA is in the planning stages to develop effectiveness monitoring studies to evaluate how well area plans and rules are meeting TMDL load allocations, DEQ will assist in the formulation of the goals and objectives (the questions to be answered) of the monitoring study. The purpose of DEQ's participation is to ensure that the study is focused on outcomes that are directly related to load allocation targets and to ensure that the data collected and the analysis proposed is sufficient to answer these questions.

Water Quality Monitoring

Water quality monitoring and assessment provides the foundation for effective water quality management as well as the basis for tracking violations. Water quality monitoring programs provide information on the status and trends of water quality in Oregon and identify the causes of impairment. Monitoring is conducted to determine if water quality supports beneficial uses, to understand if standards are being met and to identify new water quality problems. Streams that do not meet water quality standards are placed on the 303(d) list and will have TMDLs developed for them. In order to develop TMDLs, studies must be conducted to determine the sources and loads of pollutants affecting the

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water body and how those vary over time and space. DEQ is engaged in several other types of monitoring studies, including the following:

- Studies to determine the relationship between water quality, habitat conditions and biological condition.
- Studies to determine threats to human and ecological health from toxic compounds.
- Studies to identify threats to groundwater.

LEAP also collects water samples and analyzes the results to support other DEQ programs that respond to inquiries from the public. In addition, the laboratory certifies environmental laboratories in cooperation with ODA and OHA under the National Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP). The Laboratory works with other agencies to monitor Oregon's progress under the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds and provides equipment and technical support to watershed councils for water quality monitoring.

Water quality monitoring is necessary to understand how well Oregon is protecting the uses of its water. DEQ monitors water quality by collecting water quality samples, and then performing chemical analysis and statistical analysis of the resulting data. The Water Quality Program is responsible for monitoring and assessing Oregon's 52,000 miles of rivers, 400,000 acres of lakes, 56,000 acres of tidal wetlands, 360 miles of coastal ocean and 206 square miles of estuaries, harbors and bays. DEQ augments its water quality data by using monitoring data from a wide variety of sources, including watershed councils and federal agencies. However, all data must first be reviewed to ensure proper quality control protocols were used.

Environmental Outcome: Effective management and analysis of water quality data provides a means for tracking and assessing the effectiveness of water quality protection and improvement efforts, supporting an adaptive management approach that will result in water quality improvements as measured through water quality monitoring and the other environmental data.

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
7.1	DEQ will participate in EPA's conversion of Core Data from PCS to ICIS, and implement sustainable processes to maintain accurate data transfers from State data systems to ICIS.	EPA will assist with determining ICIS coding solutions to problem reporting areas. EPA R10 will support and assist with acquiring funding from EPA HQ.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Convert PCS WENDB data elements to ICIS RIDE data elements. - Continued complete and timely data transfers to ICIS through batch upload routines and EPA's ICIS interface screens. 	As scheduled by EPA	Partial		<p>Conversion from PCS to ICIS reporting was achieved in December, 2012, using interim infrastructure and procedures.</p> <p>Permanent infrastructure for reporting basic permit and DMR data was put into place in early 2014. Work to develop permanent infrastructure for additional reporting data is funded and scheduled. Additional work on reporting data handling process improvement is necessary.</p>

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
7.2	DEQ will purchase or develop an Electronic Discharge Monitoring Report application and then work toward implementation.	EPA R10 will support and assist with acquiring funding from EPA HQ.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The capability for individual sources to submit DMRs electronically to Oregon DEQ. - The capability to process DMRs from non-major individual sources and input the data into ICIS. 	Ongoing			A project to acquire an electronic DMR submission system is in progress. System requirements and project documents have been developed and system procurement has begun.
7.3	Ambient Monitoring Network -DEQ will continue to monitor approximately 130 ambient water quality station 6 times annually throughout Oregon. These stations provide status and trends data for understanding water quality.	TA; consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue entering data into the database. - The Oregon Water Quality Index (OWQI) will continue to be updated annually. Annual reports will be prepared on water quality trends and indicators. - Data will be used to support the 303(d) assessment process. - Data will be used for the 305(b)/Watershed Assessments. 	1/13 1/14	Partial		Work on the ambient monitoring network is ongoing. Data collection at these status and trending locations has been running smoothly as has the data analysis that feeds the Oregon Water Quality Index report and Key Performance measures http://www.deq.state.or.us/lab/wqm/wqimain.htm . We recently added additional parameters at the ambient locations to investigate additional water quality parameters needed to run the biotic ligand model for investigating metals toxicity
7.4	Collect water quality data to support TMDL development.		TMDL developed on schedule and supported by adequate data.	Ongoing	Partial		TMDL work continues. High priority TMDL monitoring activities are currently going around Oregon, including: 1. Nehalem/Nestucca Bsns. Wtr. Temp. Study 2. Johnson Creek Bacteria Source Tracking Study 3. Santiam R. & Calapooia Cr. Nutrient Study

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
							4. Powder & Burnt Bsns. Water Temp. Study 5. Deschutes/Ltl. Deschutes Bsns. BOD Study 6. Deschutes/Ltl. Deschutes Bsns. Nutrient Study 7. Nehalem R. D.O. Study 8. Nestucca R. D.O. StudyNutrient Study 9. Tenmile & N. Tenmile Lakes Water Quality Study 10. Fifeteenmile Creek SW/GW Interaction WQ Study
7.5	Conduct 31 site visits in Oregon as part of the National Lakes Assessment.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide data for upload to EPA management system. - Use information in the narrative section of the 305(b) report/Watershed Assessments when available. 	10/30/2012	Yes		Completed. We wrapped this sampling up last fall. The second season of the National Rivers and Streams Assessment is nearing completion (Summer 2014). Progress as of August 6, 2014 is as follows: Completed 39 sites (42 sites visits) Funded sites = 52 sites (4 re-visit=56 site visits) We have 14 sites left to sample.
7.6	Collect water quality, biological data and physical habitat data at 30 sites in an Oregon Basin.		Water quality, biological data and physical habitat available for use in a basin assessment	January 2014	Yes		This work is being currently being done in the Umatilla Basin at 30 locations (August 2014). Macroinvertebrates will be collected at 30 sites and toxics
7.7	Conduct a regional monitoring summit to coordinate and capture data collected by external groups.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a regional monitoring map. - Develop a regional list of active monitoring groups. - Develop a list of water quality indicators that are 	2/13	Yes		Completed. We held a regional monitoring summit covering the John Day, Umatilla and Grande Ronde Basins in Pendleton on November 13-14, 2013. We had participation from the following organizations: Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)

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			being collected. - Assist with building the capacity and focus of the monitoring groups.				Oregon State University (OSU) Oregon Institute of Natural Resources (INR) Public Health Division Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) United States Geological Survey (USGS) United States Environmental Protection Agency United State Forest Service (USFS) Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Nez Perce Tribes Wallowa Soil and Water Conservation District Monument Soil and Water Conservation District Oregon Cattlemen's Association Oregon Natural Desert Association The Native Fish Society North Fork John Day Watershed Council Umatilla Watershed Council Walla Walla Watershed Council
7.8	Revise SOP for evaluating reference sites to incorporate new GIS information.		- Document outlining process for evaluating reference sites.	4/14	Partial		We collaborated with USFS and ODFW on a document outlining the reference site selection process we have collaborated on to date.
7.9	Conduct analysis of water quality data for Watershed Approach Basin Reports and Ag	TA and consultation	Watershed Approach Basin Reports for three basins per year: South Coast, Clackamas/Sandy,	6/30/2013	Partial		Water quality and biological data and information has been provided for the completion of these assessments. Data for the Umpqua, South Coast, and Umatilla Basins was provided and interpreted. Use of WQ data for biennial review of ag area rules and

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#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
	Area Plan & Rule biennial reviews.		Powder/Burnt Basins				plans is ongoing

Element 8: Management of Nonpoint Sources of Pollution

DEQ contact: Gene Foster

EPA contact: David Croxton

Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act requires states to have nonpoint source (NPS) management programs based on assessments of the amounts and origins of NPS pollution in the state. The Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments required development of additional management measures for NPS within the coastal zone. Nonpoint source pollution comes from numerous diffuse sources such as runoff from roads, forestry operations, on-site disposal, farms and construction sites. This type of pollution is understood to be the largest source of water quality impairment in Oregon, as well as the rest of the United States. Federal grants cover the majority of cost for Oregon's NPS program, which protects and restores both surface water and groundwater. During the 2012-2014 biennium, DEQ expects to provide close to \$2 million to local organizations for nonpoint source projects such as public education and watershed restoration. DEQ's NPS program also includes staff, which performs the following activities:

- Characterization of NPS problems/concerns.
- Monitoring to support and determine effectiveness of BMP programs.
- Best management practices development/implementation.
- Coordination between stakeholders.
- Liaison support staff to other state and federal agencies.
- Restoration activities.
- Development and modeling for NPS TMDLs.
- Development of UAA/SSC as related to NPS activities; and
- Public education.

Environmental Outcome: Active management and control of nonpoint sources of pollution will reduce the amount of nonpoint source pollution getting into Oregon's waterways, resulting in water quality improvements as measured by water quality data and measures in WQMPs and TMDL implementation plans.

#	DEQ Commitment	EPA Commitment	Outputs	Target Date	Supported by PPG?	EPA PAM	Comments
8.1	Distribute 319 grants to fund project proposals to Oregon's priority basins based on TMDL development and	Assist with criteria updates as needed. Target Oregon's priority watersheds for funding. Provide	Solicit and select projects.	05/13 and 05/14	Yes		Completed

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	implementation, drinking water source areas and GWMA's.	technical support and review of basin plans based on TMDL development and implementation and the 9-Key Elements for watershed based planning.					
8.2	Prepare an annual report of NPS program accomplishments.	Review and take final action on annual report.	NPS Annual Report	03/13 and 03/14	Yes		Completed http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/nonpoint/reports.htm
8.3	Determine with EPA available NPS Success Stories documenting either water quality progress or full restoration under PAM.	Provide assistance in development of NPS Success Stories.	NPS Success Stories	9/12 and 9/13	Yes	SP-12 WQ-10	Completed
8.4	Enter GRTS 319 mandated elements to 319 project tracking data by national deadlines, including load reductions as available.	Provide technical assistance for GRTS-related function.	Data reflecting progress and status of 319 implementation.	2/13, 2/14 load reduction, other GRTS data	Yes	WQ-9a WQ-9b WQ-9c	Completed
8.5	Work with EPA to review TMDLs and other basins	Provide technical support and	Develop strategies to leverage current resources	6/13	Yes		Ongoing

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	plans for meeting EPA's 9 Key Element watershed based planning guidance.	review of basin plans based on TMDL development and implementation and the 9 Key Elements watershed guidance.	for development of a watershed framework that integrates TMDLs and NPS Programs and is consistent with EPAs 9 Key Elements watershed plan model. Inform DEQ HQ and Regional staff about the Watershed Framework and the linkages between the various DEQ Water Quality subprograms. Develop conceptual model for management practice reporting system for implementation monitoring of WQMPs.				
8.6	Develop BMPs and other measures/rules to address NPS pollution from forestry, new developments, and on-site disposal within the Coastal	Provide input to and assist DEQ during development of BMPs and other measures for the Coastal Zone.	Outstanding conditions related to Oregon's Coastal NPS Pollution Control Plan are addressed.	Ongoing	Partial		Submitted revised measures to EPA in July 2013

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#	<u>DEQ</u> <u>Commitment</u>	<u>EPA</u> <u>Commitment</u>	<u>Outputs</u>	<u>Target</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Supported</u> <u>by PPG?</u>	<u>EPA</u> <u>PAM</u>	<u>Comments</u>
	Zone.						
8.7	Develop Agency Toxics Reduction Strategy.		A toxics reduction strategy that incorporates air, land and water.	06/30/13	Yes		Completed http://www.deq.state.or.us/toxics/docs/ToxicsStrategyNov28.pdf
8.8	Prepare an update to the 2000 Oregon NPS Management Plan.	Provide guidance for review and approve the Oregon NPS Plan Update.	Complete an updated Oregon NPS Management Plan.	(Draft) NPS Plan Update 6/13, (Final) NPS Plan update 9/13	Yes		Draft submitted to EPA and out for public comment 8/14: http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/nonpoint/plan.htm

Element 9: Source Water Protection

DEQ contacts: Gene Foster

EPA contacts: Susan Eastman

Source Water Protection Program

The Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments (SDWA) of 1996 provided resources to states to focus more attention on the source areas for public water systems instead of solely relying upon treatment to achieve clean drinking water. Approximately 75% of Oregon's citizens get their drinking water from public water systems. To address the assessment requirements of the SDWA, the Department of Human Services – Health Services (DHS), now Oregon Health Authority, teamed up with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The two agencies have established a Memorandum of Understanding to coordinate their work.

The two agencies worked closely in 1998 and 1999 with a citizen's advisory committee consisting of nine public water system managers and 11 interest groups and agency representatives to develop the Oregon program. DEQ and OHA then shared the responsibilities to implement the program that included computer database development, Geographic Information System (GIS) development, technical assistance, contamination source inventories, surface water delineations, groundwater delineations, and susceptibility analyses. Oregon completed the source water assessments in June 2005 for 142 surface water systems, 948 ground water systems (community and non-transient non-community), as well as 1040 transient non-community systems.

In recognition of the role of usable drinking water as a prerequisite for human health and future economic growth, OHA and DEQ have now shifted resources into providing technical assistance to public water systems and communities to encourage drinking water protection. This is being done through the use of site-specific information derived from the assessments, the development of outreach programs and tools, the integration of drinking water priorities with other agency programs, and working with local planning authorities to integrate drinking water protection areas into land use planning decisions."

EPA has set out a two-part "Strategic Target" for the source water protection program, which the EPA regional offices are expected to meet:

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- Strategic Target SP-4a: “By 2011 24% of the community water systems will achieve minimized risk to public health (minimized risk is achieved by substantial implementation, as determined by the State, of source water protection actions in a source water protection strategy).”
- Strategic Target SP-4b: “By 2011, 81% of the population served by community water systems will receive drinking water that minimizes risk to public health (minimized risk is achieved by substantial implementation, as determined by the State, of source water protection actions in a source water protection strategy).”

DEQ recognizes that EPA Region 10 is expected to meet this target, and will endeavor to assist the Region in meeting it.

Element 10: Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program

DEQ contacts: [Anita Yap](#)

EPA contacts: Paula vanHaagen

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program

In 1987 Congress established the CWSRF program to replace the Construction Grants program that provided direct grants to communities to complete sewer infrastructure projects. EPA oversees the CWSRF loan program and each state and Puerto Rico to implement the program. The program makes low-interest loans available to address water quality. Congress continues to appropriate funds to EPA for the purpose of capitalizing the CWSRF program each year. Each state must contribute a minimum matching amount of 20 percent of its federal grant to the program annually.

DEQ administers the CWSRF program in Oregon and provides low-cost loans for the planning, design and construction of a variety of projects that address water quality improvement and protection. Oregon laws allow the use of these funds to public agencies only including cities, counties, sanitary districts, soil and water conservation districts, irrigation districts, school districts, and various special districts. A majority of the loans are provided to cities that address wastewater treatment needs and thus help to meet the state’s water quality standards. These standards are necessary to protect beneficial uses such as recreation, fish habitat, boating, irrigation and drinking water. While continuing to serve traditional municipal wastewater needs, the CWSRF program also provides loans and incentives to address nonpoint source water pollution and is integrating sustainable approaches to water quality improvement and protection. Each type of loan DEQ offers has different financial terms, and is intended to provide communities with choices when financing water quality improvements. In 2010, DEQ hired two regional engineers who work directly with communities to ascertain sustainable wastewater infrastructure needs and incorporate feasible approaches, and to identify available financial options. DEQ also continues to work with other funding agencies in Oregon to assist communities by identifying viable financing options for eligible projects.

Each year Oregon’s program makes approximately \$50 million available statewide for water quality improvements. Oregon’s capitalization grant in 2013 is will provide approximately \$15 million of the \$179 million available funds. To date, DEQ has provided loans to 148 communities totaling more than \$1 billion. This includes about \$44.3 million provided to 13 projects under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

DEQ conducted a comprehensive administrative rule review for the CWSRF program in 2012 to: review program approaches to funding projects; ensure project ranking criteria align with water quality program goals; and ensure long term financial integrity of the program. The rulemaking process included obtaining recommendations from an advisory committee, drafting proposed revisions for public review and comment, and presenting proposed rule revisions for adoption to the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission. The rulemaking was completed in Dec. 2012.

Although EPA oversees the CWSRF program, federal regulations allow states broad flexibility in establishing and implementing their revolving funds. EPA works closely with each state in providing technical assistance and oversight to ensure consistency with federal regulations. DEQ and EPA Region 10 maintain a mutual agreement to operate the program in Oregon which stipulates the procedures and expectations of the program. EPA’s regional Oregon CWSRF coordinator and DEQ’s CWSRF program staff work closely together in support of Oregon’s program. EPA evaluates Oregon’s financial and program procedures each year through a site visit and annual report. DEQ provides EPA

Deleted: Judy Johndahl

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with an intended plan for the state's use of its fund annually, and also provides an annual report to EPA on the program's accomplishments during the state fiscal year. DEQ will report on environmental outcomes by completing an environmental benefits evaluation for each project in EPA's environmental benefits system for the CWSRF.

What is a Program Activity Measure (PAM)?

From the "National Water Program Guidance Appendix: FY 2006 Final Measures and Commitments"

"PAMs address activities to be implemented by EPA Headquarters, EPA Regional Offices, or by States/Tribes that administer national programs. They are the basis for monitoring progress in implementing programs to accomplish the environmental improvements described in the new Strategic plan."

In April of 2005, the National Water Program published Guidance describing strategies for meeting the water related goals established in the Environmental Protection Agency Strategic Plan and defining the measures to be used to assess progress in meeting the goals in the Plan in FY 2008. Some of the measures included "targets," or increments of progress that might be accomplished under the measures in FY 2008.

The Guidance includes an Appendix that identifies the specific measures that support each water subobjective Plan. The Appendix includes all measures related to water programs, including the environmental/public health measures state in the EPA Strategic Plan (i.e. subobjectives and strategic targets) and the measures of activity in a range of program areas that support each subobjective (i.e. Program Activity Measures or PAMs).

What PAMs apply to the PPA?

The matrix has a column identifying the EPA PAMs. These have been suggested by the EPA program managers as appropriate.

Where can I go for additional information regarding PAMs?

<http://www.epa.gov/water/waterplan/documents/05guidance.html>